



MINUTES
SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD TUES., 2012-OCT-02, 4:45 PM
IN JACK LITTLE ROOM B, NANAIMO AQUATIC CENTRE, 741 THIRD STREET

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Terre Flower, Chair
Suzanne Andre
Elizabeth Forrester
Ralph Meyerhoff
John Neville

Val Alcock
Diane Brennan
Linda McCandless
Dot Neary
Angelika Valchar

MEMBERS ABSENT:

George Anderson
Jan Tatlock

Zeni Maartman

STAFF PRESENT:

John Horn, Social Planner

Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:50 pm.

The Chair read out an email from Z. Maartman in which she tendered her resignation. The Committee will send Ms. Maartman a thank you card for her many years of service on SPAC.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes from 2012-Sep-04 be adopted. The motion was carried.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- a) Welcoming Reception for New Immigrants – D. Brennan advised that the invitation will be produced by City staff, and that staff from the Multicultural Society will mail them out using a list of new immigrants produced by the Multicultural Society. A suggestion was made that an ad be placed asking new immigrants to contact the Multicultural Society to request an invitation.

5. DELEGATIONS

- a) Alastair Hunter, Young Life, Nanaimo – Mr. Hunter provided information on the organization and advised that the Community Service grant allocated to them was used to train their 12 volunteers. He noted that Young Life is the largest youth mentoring organization in the world, and that each volunteer works with 10-20 youth.

It was moved and seconded that the delegation be received. The motion was carried.

- b) Katelyn McDougall, OfCity Consulting presented the final 'Review and Analysis of Community Input' in regards to the provision of supported housing sites in the City of Nanaimo. Some comments/questions from the Committee were:
- Were people who had concerns generally opposed to the projects, or in favour but with concerns? K. McDougall replied that 18.6% who had concerns were in favour of the projects.
 - Very appreciative of this information. There are no surprises and it confirms what issues people were most concerned about.
 - How much did people with responses really understand about what was happening in Nanaimo with respect to supportive housing? K. McDougall advised that she could not specifically say, but believes that with more public engagement, some of the concerns could have been alleviated.
 - How many responders really understood that the City was permitted to only provide certain information about some of the issues, such as the land deal, which was under the Province's purview. K. McDougall stated that few people appeared to understand that, and that more dialogue with the public would have been helpful.
 - Was there anything noticeable regarding age profiles of the two Facebook sites? K. McDougall advised that more young people appeared to be involved in the Greenlight Project.
 - There was no indication in the report of age, racial origin, or whether the responder lived in the neighbourhood where a supportive housing was proposed. It is a good reflection however of the furor that surrounded these developments, but there is no way of knowing where the source of the comments was, or if they were based on factual information. Future surveys will be contained to the areas where the projects are built.
 - J. Horn noted that many of the emails did say where the people lived, and most were within a few square miles of the proposed developments. Few responses came from neighbourhoods that would not be impacted; the Greenlight Project being the exception.

It was moved and seconded that the delegation be received and the report accepted. The motion was carried.

6. STRATEGIC PLANNING

This heading will be changed to 'Strategic Priorities' on future agendas.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Letter dated 2012-Jul-09 from the Canadian Mental Health Association advising how their Community Service grant was utilized.

It was moved and seconded that the correspondence be received. The motion was carried.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Applications received for the second round of 2012 Community Service grants were reviewed. A concern was voiced regarding a neighbourhood association applying for funds that they intend to give to two schools their area. Also, a suggestion was made that a box be added to the application form indicating a sponsor.

It was moved and seconded to recommend that Council allocate the following Community Service Grants:

Applicant	Funds to be Used For	Amount Requested \$	Amount Recommended \$
Old City Quarter Association	5-day per week litter pick-up in the Old City Quarter, Old City Neighbourhood Association and Nob Hill areas	1,500	1,500
South End Community Association	Miners Heritage Picnic	1,000	1,000
Nanaimo Old City Association	Halloween Event	970	970
Brechin Hill Community Association	Establishing a working strategy to respond to issues that compromise personal and business safety in the neighbourhood	1,000	1,000
Harewood Neighbourhood Association	3 programs at Georgia Ave. and Fairview Community Schools	2,620	2,620
Street Legal Nanaimo	Funding weekly advice clinics	4,000	4,000
TOTAL		11,090	11,090

The motion was carried.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- a) Report from J. Horn re Committee priorities

J. Horn reviewed his report with the Committee. Some of the discussion was:

- The main question is who are we trying to help, and how are we going to do that?
- Even though the list of priorities has been narrowed down, it still covers a wide range.
- SPAC are not food providers, so should look at what they can do; i.e. looking at food infrastructure, and bringing the food providers together.
- One of the biggest needs is a warehouse.
- The food providers would prefer to have a reefer truck to do pick-ups at the grocery stores, rather than a warehouse.
- Consider doing a targeted call for such a truck, using Social Development grant funds.

- This might encourage the kinds of partnerships we have been discussing. In order to provide that kind of infrastructure, groups will have to start pooling funds and working towards one goal.
- Bring the fulltime food distributors together for feedback on how to organize a reefer truck program.
- Use this opportunity to bring businesses in as partners.
- Food providers pull together at Christmas; this might be a good time to seek leadership.
- Service clubs, such as Rotary, may know how to acquire a refrigerated truck.
- SPAC could reorganize its Social Development grant process. They could work out a proposal that they intend to fund, and then bring providers together and request funding applications to accomplish it.
- SPAC needs to decide what its goals, objectives and strategies are.

It was moved and seconded that 'food infrastructure' be the priority focus of SPAC for the next 12 months. The motion was carried.

It was suggested that food providers be invited to a SPAC meeting to discuss the issue of food infrastructure and its coordination, and advise them that criteria for funding allocations will be based on the discussion.

b) Need for a Line in the City budget for Food Provision

The Committee commented that whatever is ascertained from their discussion with food providers could be used to inform Council on the suggestion that a line be included in the City budget for food provision. It was suggested that J. Horn discuss this matter with the City's Director of Finance and report back to the Committee.

10. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL UPDATES / INFO ITEMS

- a) Grants Advisory Committee – No report.
- b) Safer Nanaimo Working Group – No report.
- c) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness – J. Horn advised that Council approved the Working Group's recommendations regarding 'Capacity Building to End Homelessness' grants as follows:

Proponent	Activity	Amount Recommended \$
First Unitarian Fellowship	Cold, Wet Winter Shelter	40,000
John Howard Society	Tenancy Support Program	48,870
Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre	Aboriginal Young Mothers Supported Housing	37,674
Volunteer Nanaimo	Community Dental Clinic	20,000
7-10 Breakfast Club	Free Community Breakfast	24,000
People for a Healthy Community - Gabriola	Food and housing supports to homeless or at risk of homelessness	8,000
Community Kitchens	Basic cooking and nutrition skills	7,456

- d) Council Meeting Updates – S. Andre reported the following from the Council meeting held 2012-Oct-01:
- Protection Island residents were concerned about where they would dock their boats if the new marina development proceeds. The Port Authority will be invited to the next Council meeting to discuss their plans.
 - Council advanced grant funds to the DNBIA for an Environmental Study on the Terminal Corridor.
 - The Young Professionals of Nanaimo painted the A & B Sound Building.
 - The City of Nanaimo received a Small-Business Friendly Award.
 - The maximum penalty for a bylaw violation was increased to \$10,000.
 - Two development permits were approved in riparian areas.
 - Allowable signage was increased in the Linley Valley area.
 - All recommendations in the Grants Advisory Committee report were approved with the exception of the one pertaining to the Nanaimo Community Hospice Society.
 - A bylaw banning the sale of shark fins was adopted.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2012-Nov-06.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.